United States Mint, Philadelphia, Penn.,

MELTER AND REFINER'S DEPARTMENT,

13th May, 1879.

Sir;

I have your letter of the 7th Inst., asking my views in reference to permission granted to persons to observe the operations in my Department of the Mint in order to acquire the knowlege and skill requisite to fill an appointment to such a position.

To this I reply that in thinking over the history of this Mint during the past 25 years, I cannot recal to memory a case of permission granted, except to one who was to occupy such a position in the public service.

When Dr Alexander Muckle called upon me, and told me that he wished to perfect himself in Melting, Refining and Assaying, with the express object of filling such a position, I could not avoid drawing the conclusion that he had a special appointment in the Government Service in view, either actual or expected, and as such

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden. 13/5-79

RG104 E1 Box 116

such matters are kept prudently private until officially announced. I forbore pressing Dr M. more closely on the subject. Acting on this belief, I told that I would be glad to have him in my department of the Mint, if he obtained the sanction of higher authority; and that there was ample precedent for the action. The same idea pervaded my intercourse with Mr Childs in reference to Dr Mucklé.

Respectfully yours,
Ja C Booth,
M. & R.

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden,
Superintendent.

RG104 E-1 Box 116

235½

U. S. Mint, Melter and Refiner's Department,

PHILADELPHIA, PENN.,

May 13, 1879.

Jas. C. Booth

Melter and Refiner.

In reference to Dr. Alex. Muckle's application for permission to perfect himself in the art of melting & refining and assaying.

No. of Enclosures,

Recd May 13th 1879.

RG104 E-1 Box 116

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 116

[Abstract:] In reference to Dr. Alex Mucklé's application for permission to perfect himself… 235 ½

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When Dr. Alexander Mucklé called upon me, and told me that he wished to perfect himself in Melting, Refining and Assaying, with the express object of filling such a position, I could not avoid drawing the conclusion that he had a special appointment in the Government Service in view, either actual or expected, and as such matters are kept prudently private until officially announced, I forbore pressing Dr. M. more closely on the subject. Acting on this belief, I told that I would be glad to have him in my department of the Mint, if he obtained the sanction of higher authority, and that there was ample precedent for the action. The same idea pervaded my intercourse with Mr. Childs in reference to Dr. Mucklé.

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